

**Research Council Minutes**  
**March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**3:30pm – 5:00pm**  
**via WebEx**

**VOTING:**

Jason Carter	Sarah Shannon
Mary Miles	Colin Shaw
Mary Cloninger	Nicole Tuss
Ron June	Blake Wiedenheft
Brent Peyton/Robin Gerlach	Carl Yeoman
Michael Brody / Eric Austin	Nicholas Childs

**NON-VOTING:**

Craig Ogilvie  
Chris Kearns/ Jim Mitchell  
Terry Leist  
Robert Mokwa/Durward Sobek  
Leslie Schmidt  
Jonathan Hilmer  
Jayne Morrow  
Liz Shanahan

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Meeting called to order at 3:30 pm. Minutes were unanimously approved.

1. Brief Announcements/Updates

a. NIH COBRE session – April 7 @ noon (J. Carter)

- VP Carter shared that the announcement for NIH COBRE session. He asked the RC to encourage those who would benefit from this session to attend on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

b. Core facilities/Leave policy updates (L. Schmidt)

- Leslie updated the progress on the leave policy that she has been working on with the Huron team. She also reported that the CORE Facilities steering committee will have the Kick-off meeting to discuss the scope, the plan and the timeline. The next step is to plan for campus-wide discussion with the facilities users.

2. GRA salary spreadsheet for grants (C. Ogilvie)

- Craig shared details on the GRA Salary Spreadsheet that will add to the Graduate School Website. The significant change is the stipend level. The Department Heads had discussed using the database from the Oklahoma State as the starting point. The faculty will select their department on the template, and that will repopulate the recommended stipend.

3. Food & Fuel Security GC sessions (J. Morrow & L. Shanahan)

- Liz Shanahan and Jayne Morrow are working on scheduling the Grand Challenge session on Food & Fuel Security. The idea will be focused on Montana but will also look out in the larger region. Liz welcomed any ideas of speakers, faculty or USDA scientists, etc.
4. External metrics for Grand Challenges (L. Shanahan, C. Yeoman and C. Shaw w/ invited guest C. Fastnow)
- Chris Fastnow joined the meeting to hear about the External metrics effort.
  - Liz shared the presentation that she prepared with the ad hoc committee. The goal is to develop metrics to reflect the success of these grand challenges. They came up with the draft of 5 metrics to measure our impact:
    - #1 Research Activity
    - #2 Engagement with boards and organizations
    - #3 Community “Touches”
    - #4 Students trained & engaged with research & service
    - #5 Product (state climate assessment, data sets, patents & licenses)
  - Liz added another idea to track what we are doing is to develop an award for each Grand Challenge. It will also encourage the activity insights.
  - Chris complimented the group effort. The External indicators might be a challenge to move, but these proposed metrics will help get the information out.
  - VP Carter asked the RC to share their thoughts on the External Metrics Grand Challenges. We will have the final draft for our next meeting before moving forward to the University Council.
5. Research Misconduct (K. Lubick & L. Shanahan)
- Kirk Lubick and Liz Shanahan have worked together to update the Research Misconduct Policy. They reviewed the Research Misconduct policies from numerous institutions and adopted some of those ideas into our Policy. They came up with the new term of advisory committee; the appropriate Dean will be included with this process as well.
  - It was noted that the Research Misconduct Policy Revision will help provide more guidance and clarity to the process.
  - VP Carter would like RC’s input before forwarding it to Dean Council, Senate Council and Graduate Council to review. Then the final approval will be at the University Council.
6. FY22 F&A reinvestment process and update on C/I “crediting” system (J. Carter & L. Schmidt)

- VP Carter updated that the Expenditure reports were sent to the deans, showing an increase in the department level and all of the colleges.
- Mary Miles questioned on crediting to a faculty member who is affiliated with the Extension. VP Carter confirmed that a faculty member has option to submit through the department and then click the credit button for the Extension.

7. Procurement Process (C. Yeoman & L. Schmidt)

- Carl Yeoman shared his issue on the Procurement Process related to choosing vendors based on cost.
- Mary Cloninger, Nikki Tuss and Colin Shaw gave suggestions -- asking guidance from the procurement to accomplish the process.

8. Other/Future Items?

- VP Carter will present the QTR 3 numbers at the April meeting. We will also bring back the final vote and approval on the External Metrics.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

**Next Research Council Meeting: April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 3:30 pm  
Via WebEx**